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WITH THE CORN BORER

Issued in the interest of corn-borer control conducted by the United States Department of Agriculture in cooperation with the State departments of agriculture and State agricultural colleges in New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Michigan, and Indiana.

No. 30 Washington, D. C. March 3, 1928

RESEARCH THE SOURCE of CONTROL METHODS

Corn-borer control methods must all be based on an intensive study of the corn borer, its habits and life history. Facts about the borer, its habits and its relation to its environment, have been accumulated by the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, through 10 years of comprehensive research. The work was begun in a small way in 1918 in cooperation with the Massachusetts Agricultural Experiment Station and has been enlarged from time to time as the destructive possibilities of the borer developed.

The research work is now carried on at four corn-borer laboratories distributed over the infested area so that the study of the borer may be made in relation to the cornfields it is attacking. These laboratories are located at Arlington, Mass.; Silver Creek, N. Y.; Sandusky, Ohio; and Monroe, Mich. A laboratory at Hyeres, France, is also maintained to study the borer in its native habitat and investigate native parasites which seem to reduce the infestation in Europe.

THE 1928 PROGRAM

The research work in entomology for the coming year will be carried on under the direction of W.H.Larrimer with D.J.Caffrey directly in charge and will pursue the following plan:

Address communications to Information Division, Corn-Borer Control, Extension Service, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.

1928 Program (Continued)

I. Distribution -
Continuation of the annual survey by scouting crews.

II. Control -
including experiments in burning, feeding to livestock, plowing, varietal and seasonal planting, host plants, special field machinery, insecticides, storage of cornstalks, trap crops, etc.

III. Life history, seasonal occurrence and habits, especially in the more recently infested area in the Middle West.

IV. Dispersion -
Continuation of the studies of moth flight, artificial and common carriers, waterdrift, field surveys to determine intensity of infestation.

V. Host plants -
Continuation of the experiments and examination of all plants suspected of harboring borer.

VI. Investigations in Europe -
Distribution, seasonal history, abundance and damage, parasites, natural enemies other than parasites, control, collection of agricultural data.

VII. Investigations in the Orient -
Same plan as VI.

VIII. Natural enemies -
Studies of parasites (European, native, oriental); predators (insects, spiders, birds, animals).

IX. Disease -
Observations re death of larvae from disease in the field and in rearing cages; reference of diseased specimens to specialists for determination.

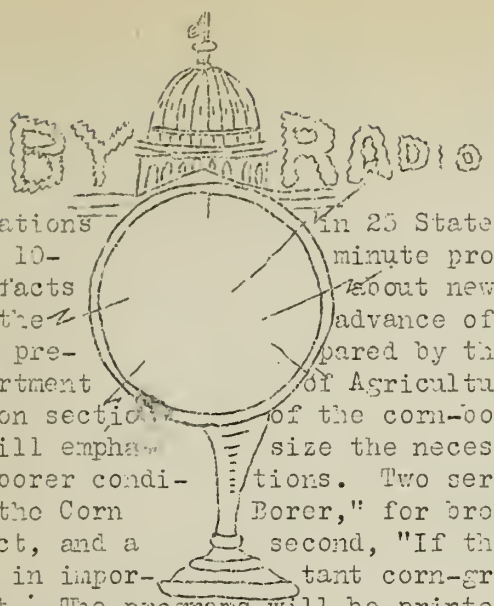
X. Miscellaneous -
Laboratory methods and technique; taxonomy and exhibition; statistics; photography, including motion pictures.

COPIES OF THE COMPLETE RESEARCH PROGRAM OUT

The complete 1928 program as adopted at the Second Annual Research Conference held in Washington, January 3, 1928, has been compiled and mimeographed and is now available for distribution.

The program includes the plans for research work of the Dominion of Canada, which has just been submitted by H. G. Crawford, Division of Field Crop Insect Investigations of the Entomological Division, Department of Agriculture, Canada. It also includes the plans for research work during the coming year of the United States Department of Agriculture, and the States conducting such work - New York, Pennsylvania, New Hampshire, Ohio, Michigan, Indiana, and Illinois.

Copies of this publication may be obtained from the Bureau of Entomology, United States Department of Agriculture, Washington, D. C.



Radio stations in 25 States will broadcast for farm listeners one 10-minute program each week, from March 5 to May 1, facts about new farm problems arising on account of the advance of the corn borer. The programs are being prepared by the Radio Service of the United States Department of Agriculture in collaboration with the information section of the corn-borer control campaign organization and will emphasize the necessity of adapting farm practices to corn-borer conditions. Two series will be supplied: One, "Living with the Corn Borer," for broadcast in States infested by the insect, and a second, "If the Corn Borer Comes," for farm listeners in important corn-growing States not yet reached by the pest. The programs will be printed in "With the Corn Borer," beginning with next week's issue.

NEW YORK OFFICIALS MEET

A meeting of the educational forces from the College of Agriculture, the regulatory forces from the State Department of Agriculture and Markets, and representatives of the United States Department of Agriculture, was held at Buffalo, Friday evening, February 24.

Tentative plans for regulatory measures were discussed and further plans made for the educational campaign in the regulatory area were developed and discussed. The area to be placed under regulations was not finally determined, but it will probably cover 58 or 60 townships along Lake Erie, whereas last year's area included only 52 townships.

WHEN THE BORER COMES

From way out in Douglas County, Neb., come rumors of corn-borer education at a farmers' meeting featuring corn and hog production. A talk on "The Corn Borer is Coming" was given by P. H. Stewart, who had just returned from the corn-borer territory.

Maryland farmers are getting ready to fight the borer. "The near approach to Maryland territory of the European corn borer makes it imperative for the people of the State to familiarize themselves with the pest and the methods that have been worked out for its control" says E. N. Cory, State entomologist, who is keeping in close touch with corn-borer developments.

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